

I have recently become aware of Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry "documentary" days before the election, as reported in the Washington Post. This so-called "documentary" is in fact a smear campaign that the major networks refused to air.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But the forcing of all 62 stations to carry this smear program is clearly one-sided and as such is going against the public interest and both the local and national levels.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.